

by cultivation methods, similar phenomena being obtained. The author thus deduces the theory that the epizootic "hip pestilence" is due to the microphytes contained in the water of Lake Arary. He then enters into the question of the identity of beri-beri with this epizootic, giving a long table of the symptoms in the two cases, according to which the similarity appears to be very great. He also compares the results of post-mortem examinations, and afterward touches on the prophylactic measures which should be adopted against this terrible disease, the etiology of which he has been at such pains to elucidate.

The pamphlet is enriched by two photographs of fowls which have been inoculated or beri-beridized, as the author calls it, and by numerous excellent engravings of sections of the medulla, both macroscopic and microscopic, spores, mycelium, cultures in Van Tieghen's cell, etc. Being, however, written in Portuguese, it will hardly command the attention it deserves, unless translated into some language more universally read by scientific men.

RECENT WORKS ON THE CARE OF THE INSANE.

1. **HANDBOOK FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF ATTENDANTS ON THE INSANE.** 12mo. pp. 137. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co., 1886.
2. **HOW TO CARE FOR THE INSANE; A MANUAL FOR ATTENDANTS IN INSANE ASYLUMS.** By WILLIAM D. GRANGER, M.D., First Assistant Physician, Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane, Buffalo, N. Y. 12mo. pp. 96. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

THE number of insane under treatment in the asylums and hospitals of the United States and Canada is estimated to be 53,000, and it may be stated that no less than 4000 attendants are employed in their care. The selection of attendants is usually delegated to the chief medical officer, and, if not trammelled in the performance of this duty, it may be assumed he will be governed by some policy and have some standard of qualifications to which all will be expected to conform. The insane are removed from the surroundings of home, the attendance of the family physician, that personal care which, under other circumstances, friends would prefer to render, and new environments come to surround the patient, of which the attendants and the quality of their service form an important part.

The relation which a hospital assumes is in the nature of a confidential guardianship, and the physician regards it as one enhancing rather than lessening his usual responsibilities. The patient is in frequent contact and companionship with the hospital agents or attendants, who at the same time that they render personal service, execute the directions of the physician, and thus to a certain extent exercise a discretionary control over the ward. As the physician is not at all times in his wards and depends upon his attendants for certain information, they become his trusted agents and, as has been observed, "his eyes and ears." Every physician, therefore, recognizes the necessity of training attendants for their responsible duties. As he estimates the elements of a successful administration of a hospital, he will attach the greatest importance to

the creation of a corps of attendants imbued with a spirit of kindly sympathy, an intelligent appreciation of the conditions of those under their charge, trained to implicit conformity to the printed rules and regulations usually prepared for its government. If, in addition, the attendant is impressed and influenced by high moral convictions of duty, by the dignity and nobility of his calling, the physician is soon surrounded and assisted by agencies as essential and valuable as his medicines, and indispensable as fine tools to the skilled mechanic. How a high degree of training may be best imparted to attendants is a pressing problem with every manager and officer of a hospital. Every hospital is a school for training attendants, and every superintendent aims, in his own way, to produce the Ideal Good Attendant, who, as Dr. Ray has observed:

"Elevateth his employment by the manner in which he performeth its duties. Though offensive to the senses, or trying to the temper, or exhaustive of patience, as many of them are, yet he meeteth them all faithfully and promptly. Like every true man and true woman, he findeth that dignity inherent in every good work that ennobles even the meanest service. As the good artisan rejoiceth over some choice specimen of his craft wrought by his own hand, so doth the Good Attendant rejoice when, after much toil and trial, he seeth the mind of his patient coming out from under the cloud.

The two books before us are the outcome of efforts to instruct and train attendants by oral lectures. *The Handbook for the Instruction of Attendants* was prepared in 1884 by a Committee of the British Medical-Psychological Association, of which Dr. A. Campbell Clark, of Glasgow District Asylum, was chairman. As Dr. Clark had undertaken with great success, as he reports, to instruct his attendants of both sexes by oral lectures two and a half years previously, it may be inferred that the *Handbook* embodies the substance of the lectures he then delivered. It was submitted to the Association and received its approval. Thirty-eight pages are devoted to "The Body: Its General Functions and Disorders;" twenty-seven pages to "Nursing of the Sick;" twenty-six pages to "Mind and its Disorders;" twenty-three pages to "The Care of the Insane;" and sixteen pages to "The General Duties of Attendants."

How to Care for the Insane is a manual for the guidance of attendants in asylums, and embraces the lectures delivered by the author, who began, in October, 1883, at the Buffalo State Asylum, a course of instruction to the women attendants upon their duties and how best to care for their patients. This has been regularly continued till it has become a fixed part of the asylum life." The contents embrace lectures on "The Nervous System and some of its Important Functions," "The Mind and some of its Functions," "Insanity, or Disease of the Mind," "The Duties of an Attendant," "General Care of the Insane," "Care of the Violent, Homicidal, Suicidal Insane, and Those Inclined to Violence," "Some of the Common Mental States and Accompanying Bodily Conditions," "Common Accidents Among the Insane," "Treatment of Emergencies," "Services Frequently Demanded of Attendants."

We have inserted at some length the contents of these volumes, and it gives us pleasure to commend the books and the sincere efforts the authors have made to elevate the standard of hospital service. They show the scope of instruction that may be imparted to nurses. The work and object of the authors will also receive the commendation and co-operation of officers and managers of hospitals, State officers, and the profession. The acquisition of knowledge alone, without the ability to

apply it intelligently, or a moral principle to give it character, will, however, not result in the production of the Ideal Good Attendant. It must be borne in mind that many of the greatest reforms and advances in the care of the insane have been accomplished by medical officers through moral force, example, bedside instruction, practical rules for the guidance of attendants to which they have exacted strict compliance.

The subject of training and instructing attendants is receiving increasing attention, as is shown by the establishment of schools in the McLean Asylum, Buffalo State Asylum, oral instruction in the Boston Lunatic Asylum, State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, and recent discussions in the Association of Medical Officers of English and American Asylums. It may be a question in what manner the systematic training of attendants can be accomplished, and whether instruction by lectures alone can be relied upon to effect the best results. In the opinion of Dr. Cowles, of the McLean Asylum, who has given much thought to the subject, and whose reports from 1880-85 may be profitably consulted in this connection, a foundation must first be laid by giving class instruction and teaching special bedside and ward duties under the direction of a superintendent of nurses after the manner of a general hospital, while the lectures by physicians may more profitably follow. In other words, the school is the result of a process of gradual development. The school of the McLean Asylum was formally organized in Nov. 1882, as the result of tentative preparation begun in 1880, and may be said to be the first of the kind in this country.

Some of the chapters in each of these books might have been omitted, as the matter is more appropriate for a professional reader. It will hardly satisfy the physician, and is beyond the capacity of the attendant. It is of little importance to instruct attendants in the philosophy of the human mind, the nervous system, its functions or disorders, or about the doses, use, and effects of medicines. More space might have been allotted to instruction in the simplest duties of the attendant and nurse, and we shall hope to see these suggestions followed in further contributions to this subject which are promised.

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STUDIES IN PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY. By FRANCIS DELAFIELD, M.D.,
Professor of Pathology and Practical Medicinæ. Volume II. Part 2. New
York: William Wood & Co., 1886.

ALL interested in the subject of pathological anatomy will welcome the above evidence of the continuation of Dr. Delafield's studies. The part just published contains twenty-seven plates (xiii-xxxix.), which illustrate the subjects of chronic phthisis and lobar pneumonia. The great variety of lesions of the respiratory tract which may occur in the former affection are fully indicated. An objection may be made to the application of the term miliary tubercle to what is commonly considered a nodule of pneumonia, shown in Plate xxxiv. The plate following it, however, deserves the highest praise as an exquisite drawing of a thoroughly characteristic tubercle.

The last four plates are intended to demonstrate that in certain cases of acute lobar pneumonia an intra-alveolar formation of connective tissue